



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

6 MAY 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Mountain Gate – Woman Charged with Starting 63,000 Acre Delta Fire in Shasta County

(U) A woman has been charged with starting the 2018 Delta wildfire in Shasta County, which quickly tore through more than 63,000 acres and destroyed dozens of properties. Cynthia Ann Leroux, 57, a resident of Mountain Gate in Shasta County, was arrested Wednesday and has been charged by the Shasta County district attorney's office with 20 felony counts of arson and two special-circumstance allegations of arson with aggravating factors.

SOURCE: 5 May 2021, [LA Times](#)

(U) San Diego – Federal Charges Filed Against Alleged Boat Captain in Deadly Smuggling Wreck

(U) A man accused of piloting the boat that broke up on the rocks of Point Loma in a deadly human smuggling attempt has been charged in San Diego federal court, according to a complaint filed Wednesday. Antonio Hurtado faces charges of attempting to bring in undocumented migrants at a place other than a port-of-entry and assault on a federal officer, both felonies. According to the complaint, several of the 29 survivors identified Hurtado in a photo lineup as the captain of the 40-foot trawler-style boat that ran aground about 50 feet offshore and broke apart on the rocks below Cabrillo National Monument on Sunday morning.

SOURCE: 5 May 2021, [San Diego Union Tribune](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Alabama – Man Charged with Making Bomb Threats to Two Huntsville Schools

(U) Huntsville – A Huntsville man is facing charges for calling in bomb threats to two Huntsville schools Tuesday morning. Darren Pullen, 39, is charged with two counts of making terrorist threats. The Madison County Sheriff's Office said its investigators were able to find Pullen quickly after the calls to Williams Elementary and Middle schools and Grissom High School around 8:15 a.m. local time. Nothing was found at either campus, authorities said.

SOURCE: 5 May 2021, [WHNT](#)

(U) Georgia – Woman Arrested at Airport for Attempting to Smuggle Cocaine in Shoes

(U) Atlanta – A woman has been arrested at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport after attempting to smuggle cocaine in seven pairs of shoes. The incident occurred on 2 May, when a 21-year-old woman from Georgia was pulled aside for further inspection by US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers after she arrived back in the US from Jamaica. Authorities said that the amount of cocaine seized from the woman's shoes weighed approximately three-pounds and has a street value of around \$40,000.

SOURCE: 5 May 2021, [ABC7](#)

(U) Minnesota – Former Minneapolis Policeman Chauvin Requests New Trial

(U) Minneapolis – Former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin asked a judge on Tuesday for a new trial, court records showed, two weeks after he was found guilty of murder and manslaughter in the

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death of George Floyd. In a series of motions filed to District Court Judge Peter Cahill, defense attorney Eric Nelson said his client was deprived of a fair trial, adding there was prosecutorial and jury misconduct, errors of law at trial and that the verdict was contrary to the law. Prosecutors did not immediately file a response to the motions for a new trial.

SOURCE: 5 May 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) Tennessee – Officer Shot While Responding to ‘Setup’ 911 Call

(U) Nashville – A Nashville police officer was shot while responding to a 911 call of a woman shot at a house -- and the department says it believes the call was a "setup" by the shooter to lure authorities to respond. Officers were fired upon as soon as they arrived at the house Tuesday evening. Officer Brian Sherman was shot in the arm, the Metro Nashville Police Department said. The man who allegedly shot Sherman, Salman Mohamed, 22, then went outside where officers tried to negotiate with him. Mohamed fatally shot himself in the head with a rifle in the driveway. Sherman's injuries weren't life threatening and he was discharged from a hospital overnight.

SOURCE: 5 May 2021, [ABC7](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Belgium – Cyber Attack Shuts Down Belgium Government Websites

(U) Brussels – A massive distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack took down the websites of more than 200 organizations across Belgium, including government, parliament, universities, and research institutes. The DDoS attack took place on Tuesday and overwhelmed the web sites with traffic, rendering their public-facing sites unusable for visitors, while the attack overwhelmed internal systems, cutting them off from the internet. Belgium's central authority for cybersecurity was contacted following the attack to help contain and resolve it. One of the reasons the attack was so disruptive was because those behind the disruption kept altering the techniques behind it.

SOURCE: 5 May 2021, [ZD Net](#)

(U) France – Police Officer Killed During Drug Raid

(U) Avignon – A French police officer has been shot dead in the city of Avignon during an anti-narcotics operation. France's Interior Minister said several officers had been shot at during the raid and one had been killed. The shooter is on the run in Avignon, a police union source said. French media reported that the shooter had fled the scene on a kick scooter. A police union official said the officer was shot during a raid on a well-known drug-dealing spot.

SOURCE: 5 May 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) Germany – Germany Bans Organization Accused of Supporting Global Terrorism with Donations

(U) Berlin – The German government on Wednesday banned a Muslim organization accused of supporting "terrorism globally with its donations." Police raided buildings associated with Ansaar International in 10 German states. More than 1,000 police officers raided buildings and office spaces across Germany and confiscated about \$180,000. The ministry alleged the money the organization collected ostensibly went into welfare projects as a ruse to help finance groups such as the Syrian al-Qa'ida affiliate known as the Nusra Front, the Palestinian group Hamas, and al-Shabab in Somalia.

SOURCE: 5 May 2021, [AP](#)

(U) Italy – Rome Jury Sentences Two Young California Residents to Life in Prison

(U) Rome – A jury in Rome on Wednesday convicted two American friends in the 2019 slaying of a police officer in a drug sting gone awry, sentencing them to life-in-prison. The jury deliberated for more than

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12 hours before delivering the verdicts against Finnegan Lee Elder, 21, and Gabriel Natale Hjorth, 20, handing them Italy's stiffest sentence. Elder and Natale-Hjorth were indicted on charges of homicide, attempted extortion, assault, resisting a public official, and carrying an attack-style knife without just cause.

SOURCE: 5 May 2021, [AP](#)

(U) Niger – At Least 15 Nigerien Soldiers Killed, 4 Injured Following 'Terrorist Attack'

(U) Banibangou – Niger's government said Wednesday that 15 of its soldiers were killed in a "terrorist attack" near the town of Banibangou, bringing the number of troops killed to 31 in four days. The soldiers were part of a special anti-jihadist force called Operation Almahaou, the defense ministry said in a statement. They were attacked Tuesday afternoon local time by "heavily armed men" on motorcycles, described as "terrorists." Four more soldiers were injured in the attack, the ministry said, with search operations continuing.

SOURCE: 6 May 2021, [AFP](#)

(U) Pakistan – Four Soldiers Killed in Ambush by Afghan Militants

(U) Quetta – Four Pakistani soldiers were killed and six others were wounded along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border on Wednesday in an ambush by militants from Afghanistan as the soldiers were doing controversial border fencing work. The soldiers were working on fencing along the border in Zhob district, an area of Pakistan's Balochistan province, the military said in a statement. Zhob sits across from Afghanistan's eastern Paktika province.

SOURCE: 5 May 2021, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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